

## CLAIMS

1. A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

2. The agent according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a compound that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

3. A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

4. The agent according to claim 3, wherein the compound is a compound that inhibits the expression of a gene for a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

5. An antisense polynucleotide comprising the entire or part of a base sequence complementary or substantially complementary to a base sequence of a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ

ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide.

6. A pharmaceutical comprising the antisense polynucleotide according to claim 5.

7. The pharmaceutical preparation according to claim 6, which is a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases.

8. An antibody against a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or against its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical comprising the antibody according to claim 8.

10. The pharmaceutical according to claim 9, which is a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases.

11. A diagnostic agent comprising the antibody according to claim 8.

12. The diagnostic agent according to claim 11, which is a diagnostic agent for respiratory diseases.

13. A diagnostic agent for respiratory diseases comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide.

14. A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which

comprises a compound or its salt having an action of regulating a cholesterol hydroxylation activity.

15. A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which comprises using a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

16. The screening method according to claim 15, which comprises using a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

17. A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

18. The screening kit according to claim 17, which comprises a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

19. A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which comprises using a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID

NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide.

20. The screening method according to claim 19, which comprises using a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 or its partial peptide.

21. A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide.

22. The screening kit according to claim 21, comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 or its partial peptide.

23. A method of preventing/treating respiratory diseases, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective dose of a compound or its salt that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the compound is a compound that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof, or a compound that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein.

25. A method of preventing/treating respiratory diseases, which comprises inhibiting the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or inhibiting the expression of a gene for the protein.

26. The method according to claim 25, wherein the activity of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof, or the expression of a gene for the protein, is inhibited.

27. Use of a compound or its salt that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 40, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 60 or SEQ ID NO: 62, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein, to manufacture a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases.

28. Use according to claim 27, wherein the compound is a compound that inhibits the activity of a protein comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof, or a compound that inhibits the expression of a gene for the protein.

29. A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which comprises a compound or a salt thereof that promotes the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

30. A prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which

comprises a compound or a salt thereof that promotes the expression of a gene for a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof.

31. An antibody against a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or against its partial peptide or against a salt thereof.

32. A diagnostic agent comprising the antibody according to claim 31.

33. The diagnostic agent according to claim 32, which is a diagnostic agent for respiratory diseases.

34. A diagnostic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide.

35. A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which comprises using a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

36. A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof.

37. A method of screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, which comprises using a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide.

38. A kit for screening a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases, comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide.

39. A method of preventing/treating respiratory diseases, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective dose of a compound or its salt that promotes the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that promotes the

expression of a gene for the protein.

40. A method of preventing/treating respiratory diseases, which comprises promoting the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or promoting the expression of a gene for the protein.

41. Use of a compound or its salt that promotes the activity of a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64 or SEQ ID NO: 66, or its partial peptide or a salt thereof, or a compound or its salt that promotes the expression of a gene for the protein, to manufacture a prophylactic/therapeutic agent for respiratory diseases.